

of superstition. These influences have their effects. They work laxity and viciousness in those not noble enough to resist the endeavors to assimilate them downwards to infidelity, and they produce half-heartedness and shame-facedness in many more. A grand and strength-giving force should be the reflection that only he is the *true* Catholic who is simple-minded. Truth is pure and simple. God is Truth. Our Divine Lord was Truth Incarnate.—Duplicity hates Truth. God was hated and crucified. The same motives that worked on Calvary work now against the followers of Christ. He was despised and rejected because He championed *simplicity*. We have the persecution and ridicule on the same score.

We are simple-minded—let us out and say it.

Further, we are superstitious—superstitious forsooth in that we believe God stands ever above us, that He regards our every thought and action, that there is nothing so small in our work-a-day life He does not interest Himself in; that, in short, in Him “we live, and move, and have our being.”—Devotion of the sacred Heart of our Lord is one of our most simple-minded devotions. The teaching of the Church is that we shall give Divine honor to the Sacred Heart, the emblem of the great love of God for us, and from which the Divinity never has been separate, for even when Christ lay dead in the tomb, the Divinity still abode with his body; they were inseparable. This is what we believe in our Catholic simple-mindedness on the strength of a vision and the infallible teachings of Mother-Church. Moreover, we believe, because the Church says it: that if we wear a scapular or keep a picture in our house of the Sacred Heart, we shall be under its special protection.

Which is more reasonable—to believe the teachings of the Church in which

we were raised or the absurdities of the triangle?

We clip from St. Anthony's Messenger, a magazine full of interesting and instructive reading, the following item: “Of all things under the sun that tend to bring friends and keep them together, cheerfulness is the one, for who is it that doesn't like to be with a person who is always lively, agreeable, and cheerful—who greets you with a hearty clasp of the hand, a bright smile, a cheery ‘Hello!’”

It pays to be cheerful, pays well, too, in many ways. A cheerful person is sure to have a bright open face, a face that inspires confidence; he is not dyspeptic or sour-mouthed, and his heart is a great deal better than that of a person who is always grumbling and cross.

Some people never seem cheerful and happy, they are always grumbling, always complaining of their hard lot, always looking on the dark side, constantly groaning over some ill—imaginary or otherwise—that has long since passed, and are never contented. Such persons are scarcely ever liked, and rarely succeed. But, take a person, who, with head erect, eyes sparkling, and a smile playing around his mouth, when he pitches into his business, he is bound to succeed if there is any success in it.

If reverse come, if unable to collect, if subjected to the multitude of trials and vexations, petty and great, that all men must experience, instead of sitting down and whining, he will give it “one big thought,” and then pitch in again, confiding and cheerful as ever; he will come out “right side up” in the end. People like all cheerful persons, while “thunder-cloud” ones find it hard to get friends.

Therefore, be cheerful, cheerful under all circumstances.